

Memoir
of
Gerhard F. Giesbrecht

STEINBACH, MANITOBA, 1966

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you:
not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your
heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27

G. F. Giesbrecht autographed in
his 90th year
Steinbach

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GERHARD F. GIESBRECHT

1878 —

It happened on a winter's day, when my parents lived on T6, R5, Sec. 21, near the village of Gruenfeld, in Manitoba that I, Gerhard F. Giesbrecht was born to my parents Wilhelm and Katharina (Friesen) Giesbrecht, on February 13, 1878. During this winter we had very little snow.

About 8 months after my birth, my parents left the Gruenfeld district, and moved to Steinbach, where I grew into manhood. Although, under poor household conditions, our parents endeavoured to raise their children in the fear of the Lord. Father read a portion of scripture each morning and evening, and spent a short while in family prayer.

I was only 5 years of age when I began going to school. Mr Diedrich taught in this school. My second year at school was with Mr. Jacob G. Barkman, who instructed 4 winters. Since the school year was so short, acquiring knowledge was accordingly; all the time at school was used to study German. Mr. Gerhard E. Kornelsen was my teacher during my last school years. As I had to refrain from regular attendance on account of work at home, my knowledge was garnered in very scantily, and none in the English language.

The daily life of the pioneer was evolved with many hardships, where even the young children had to partake in, since the mode of work was entirely a life of farming.

Our father was away from home very often; consequently Mother acquired the help of her children very often.

1890 Since our house at this time, was subject to decay, contemplations had been going on, regarding the construction of a new dwelling place. Father and my oldest brother Wilhelm, went into the bush and cut logs, about 18 miles south, brought them home and sawed into the appropriate lumber, for the erection of a new house. During the summer of 1890, weather conditions were very favorable, and prospects for a good crop was prevalent. One night in August, a severe hail storm swept across and our promising crops were all gone. This occurrence had caused predicament to come over our parents, since debts had been made in hope of future good crops.

During this summer we children were obliged to herd the Steinbach dairy cattle to and from the southland pasture fields, twice a day; in the fall, after all the grain fields were cleared of feed, we had to herd the cattle thereon; the days indeed, seemed very long. Our good father made the remark, "A little money earned helps to provide for clothing and bread, to take us through the winter." Our dad favored the scripture: "Owe no man anything".

In the year 1894, when one of our little brothers passed away at the age of about one year, I became greatly convicted; I felt unprepared when I thought of dying; I was rather indifferent to the thought, but not exactly hard.

1896 My brother Wilhelm and I went to A. S. Friesen's new saw mill, about 18 miles east, to have some lumber sawed. My brother worked at the mill for 50 cents a

day, and I took the lumber home to Steinbach. During this summer we built a barn on our home place, which was greatly needed at this time. The following winter I worked at Friesen's mill for 50 cents a day, to repay the accumulated debts that had accrued the winter before.

1899 In January I went into the bush to work at the sawmill for 17 dollars a month. During the summer I was employed at A. W. Reimer at Steinbach; while in the fall I worked with a threshing crew. Before winter approached, I went in company with 5 other workmen, to erect a bush-camp near Sandilands. After completion of this camp, I hired out to A. W. Reimer as foreman of this camp, where cordwood was made. The following year I remained at this place to cut cordwood, that was shipped to Winnipeg.

1901 During this summer I worked for Friesen Brothers in their sash and door factory. Before fall I bought a threshing outfit from A. S. Friesen, with J. R. Friesen as shareholder; we paid 28 hundred dollars for the outfit. The succeeding two years I was employed with the same parties, and of course, I went out threshing in the fall. Shortly after the threshing season started, misfortune befell me, when I had my hand injured at the machine, that made me unable to work for a while.

As winter approached, I prepared for the work as foreman again at the sawmill, some 30 miles east of Steinbach. Winter conditions were favorable, and we had plenty of work.

It so happened that on February 11, 1903, Elizabeth Loewen and I were united in wedlock; this serious

occurrence kept me away from the bush for a week. In the spring of this year we built our own house in Steinbach, which was ready in July, when we moved in.

1904 During the fall of 1904 I worked at the sawmill again, when in the spring brother-in-law C. T. Loewen and I agreed on buying the sawmill, together with a threshing outfit. The lumber business kept us busy the next two winters. My wife with the help of a maid, prepared meals for all the men at work. During the summer months we built bridges and kept the planer going.

This was our employment until spring of 1906, when we entered into the house-moving business. At this time we still lived in Steinbach, together with our two little children.

1907 We decided to sell our share of the business to C. T. Loewen, after which we prepared to move to Lanigan, Sask. where I bought a quarter section of land, and had taken a homestead. In April we moved onto our farm (T33-R22), where we built a small house, a barn, and dug a well. Our stock and inventory consisted of 6 horses, 5 cows and the most necessary farm implements, which we took along from Manitoba. During the first summer we had plenty of moisture, that turned into snow in September. On Oct. 5, that year, we experienced our first threshing in Saskatchewan; our first winter in Saskatchewan proved to be similar to a Manitoba winter.

In the spring of 1908 we sowed 50 acres of wheat that froze in fall. The next year we sowed 100 acres of wheat, oats and barley. Having had plenty of rain during

the summer, we garnered a heavy crop that fall.

As for bodily afflictions we had none to complain of; but still, we had grown a bit homesick for both parent families. We then decided to visit them during the coming Christmas holidays, which was done very happily. Since the Andersen farm at Clear Springs was announced for sale, we agreed to buy it for 10 thousand dollars; 2 thousand in cash, and the remainder in 8 yearly equal payments, at 6 per cent.

We then returned to Lanigan, rented our farm to suitable parties, arranged for an auction sale on March 3, 1910; by the end of that month we were quite well established on our new farm in Manitoba. Courageously we began our farm duties, which were in the form of renovating the barn, etc. By 1917 we were in the mood of building a new house, since our family had increased considerably.

It happened one night when I was greatly disturbed by the evil spirit, that I prayed so fervently; I had done this very often since my youth: 'My dear Lord—be merciful unto me—permit not that I may be lost forever'. After this prayer I felt greatly at ease. I also found great comfort in Romans 5:1, where it says, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" Even to this day I feel so thankful for my redemption. Jesus is so good to me. Praise the Lord! "But that ye may know that the Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins". Matth. 9:6.

At the same time the good Lord did not pass by, and He gave us to understand, that we could be

happy in Him, together with our children; this was a sincere desire within our heart to be with the Lord in all eternity.

My father was a minister in the Church of God in Christ, and he conducted a series of revival meetings in Steinbach, together with several guest ministers. Our family attended the services regularly. We, as parents, came to the point, where we felt we had peace in our souls (Matth. 11:28, "And ye shall find rest for your souls." On March 5, 1916 we were baptized on the confession of our faith, and received into fellowship of the church. From there on we attended Sunday school together with our 8 children, and had a good time.

On November 16, 1921 I was ordained into the ministry, and have endeavoured since then, to do my duty in the fear of the Lord. Forty years have passed since then, and many a time I had to seek God in prayer.

During 1925 we undertook a trip to Nebraska, where my wife had two brothers living; in Kansas, we had one married son, who had his home there. We also visited many relatives.

In 1929, in company with our children Mary, Edwin, Minna, and Ernest, we undertook a trip to Lanigan, Sask., and Saskatoon, and extended our trip to Swallow, Alta. and to Crooked Creek, where our son, George had his home. During our home journey we stopped at Herbert, to visit my wife's auntie, Mrs. Corn. Ratzlaff, and many other dear friends.

We were exceedingly glad to return to our beloved home at Clear-

springs.

January 11, 1937. We left Winnipeg, for Kansas, to visit friends for several days; then to California for some weeks. This was a trip we enjoyed very much.

While living on our farm at Clear Springs, we usually had 4 or 5 of our children going to school, which was 2½ miles from our farm. The children most of the time drove a horse and buggy, or a sleigh during winter. We had our own barn at the school, as shelter for our horse.

Looking back over the years of our wedded life, especially, at the time, when our children were young, we as parents, must have had plenty of courage, to face life's difficulties the way we did; but it was not to remain that way. The mother of our dear children began to suffer a gallstone attack, and preparations were met, to undertake an operation. She took her condition seriously, but calmly though, and prepared to meet her God, should she be called away during this process. "Very well for you, but what must I do with our 12 children," I told her; this thought began to burden me. The operation was performed in due time, on Oct. 11, 1927; God had His hand in it; everything turned out well.

In the fall of 1939, we went to attend Conference of the Church of God, in Kansas; we accompanied our children Bern. D. Penners, who also went on a visiting trip.

In 1942, the same ailment that had bothered Mother, repeated itself, and on April 4, she had another operation, from which she

recovered, and enjoyed life with her family for another 5 years. Heart failure caused her death on Oct. 22, 1948. While visiting with her brother, Abram Loewen and family, she was called away from this life so suddenly. I moved from Steinbach to the farm at Clear Springs, and spent 7 years with my son, Ernest who managed our farm. Then in 1955 when Ernest got married, I moved to Steinbach with Josephine where I reside to this day, 1966.

Dear Family, When a healthy person can be overtaken by death so suddenly how much more an ailing person. I would like to lay this on your hearts. Please forgive me where I didn't treat you right. My quick temper often made me fail and where I should have loved I expected love. I am very sorry this happened, please forgive all that I did wrong. How will I be able to appear before God. I can't but bring Him a sinful, broken heart and find comfort in the fact, that whom God loveth he chastises. Dear children, live in harmony and peace together. In all your doings let love be the most important. We are so anxious about all of you. We want so much that none of you will be missing on that great Judgment Day. To live right, to remain faithful and true, with all God has given us. To live in the first love often takes more than you think at first. It will pay in the end to have fought a good fight. How nice it will be in heaven and that will be for all eternity.

With love from your ailing
mother,

Mrs. Elizabeth Giesbrecht
Passed away Oct. 22, 1948

Why should our tears in sorrow
 flow
 When God recalls His own,
 And bids them leave a world of
 woe,
 For an immortal crown?
 Is not even death again to those
 Whose life to God was giv'n?
 Gladly to earth their eyes they
 close,
 To open them in heav'n.

Their toils are spent—their work
 is done—,
 And they are fully blessed;
 They fought the fight—the vict'ry
 won,
 And entered into rest.
 Then let our sorrow cease to flow—
 God has recalled His own;
 But let our hearts in every woe,
 Still say "Thy Will be done".
 G. F. Giesbrecht

TRIP TO EUROPE AND THE HOLY LAND

G. F. Giesbrecht, July, 1952

July 27—Left Winnipeg in the evening for Toronto. Weather is very warm.

July 28—Took train from Toronto to New York.

July 30—Went to the wharf early in the morning and there met my travelling companions, Mr. and Mrs. Jac. T. Loewen, Jac. Ensz, from Inman, Kansas, and David Reimer. We were 100 Mennonites. The good Lord may be our guide on this journey. We went on board the ship "Queen Mary" at noon. At 1 o'clock our ship began to move from shore. The ship moves so smoothly we could hardly feel it.

July 31—It is warm on the ship but I slept well. Everyone was at the table for meals. No one was sick. We could see no land this morning. The sea is very calm. Up on top of the ship it is not so warm. I can see all my Manitoba friends at the table.

August 1—Our neighbors next door are singing. I went to see Jac. Ensz in his room. Everyone was at the table. Sailing is very fine.

August 2—The sea is very calm. We can see only water, not even

an iceberg. We were all at the table. Morning and evening we gather to pray and read God's Word.

August 3—No one is sick. Today we saw fishermen out fishing. We were on deck at twilight.

August 4—Today is the last day on board ship. We disembarked at 12 noon at Cherbourg, France. Everyone ate breakfast. God protected us on this voyage. We left for Paris by train at 3 o'clock. Got to Paris late at night. Ate and went to bed. From Cherbourg to Caen we saw what the war had done to the towns. The country is hilly. Saw many farms and villages.

August 5—Went through Paris by bus. A lady went with us and told us about Paris as we went along. Paris was a small town in 50 B.C. Napoleon is mentioned very often. The people in Paris are well dressed. We saw many cars and buses.

August 6—By bus to Versailles. We were shown to the king's palaces, garden pools, bridges, tunnels and monuments. Back to Paris for lunch. To Rheims and for the night to Verdun, a big city. We had a good rest.

August 7—By bus to Strassburg. Good cement roads. Much bush along the road. We see two wheeled wagons with one ox and also one horse in front of another. Oxen, horses and also cows have to work. The land is better near Strassburg. Before we got to Strassburg we saw a huge cemetery where soldiers had been buried. Each grave is marked with a cross, many flowers. Everything is perfect. On the way we saw many blown out houses. The houses are full of holes as if damaged by hail. We saw manure piles in the villages near the streets. Manure seems to be very valuable here. Strassburg is a lovely city.

August 8—We drove from Strassburg along the Rhine River. Land fairly good. Very small farms. 80 acre farms divided into 40 lots. At Strassburg the Rhine River and the Ill Rivers are joined by a ditch. Boats are used. At Colmar for dinner. Willie Peterschmitt went to school in America. His parents live at Colmar. Many Mennonites live here who speak French and German. The preacher at church welcomed us, we sang a few songs and prayed. Then we went on our way again.

August 9—Spent the night at Belford. Drove along the Rhine. All very pretty. We got to Basel, Switzerland in the afternoon. Now we are in beautiful Switzerland. God has protected us this far.

August 10—Basel is a beautiful city on the Rhine River. Cleanliness is remarkable. We see many cars, street cars and motor buses. I stay with a farmer Rene Rychen at Hagenheim, France.

I have a big room and a good bed. A bus comes to get me in the morning and takes me back at night. These people have three children. They have a nice house and yard. They lived 15 kilometers from Chrischona where the Mennonite Conference took place. Chrischona is 10 miles from Basel. At Chrischona I had my clothes washed.

August 11—Went to Chrischona to the conference, a very large church and very many people. "We the more than 600 representatives of the Mennonites of Europe, North America, South America, Asia and Africa send sincere greetings in Christ from the Fifth World Conference in Basel to all our Mennonite Brethren and sisters throughout the world." This is the welcome we received. Very warm.

August 12—Again at Chrischona. I drive through Basel to get to the conference. I cross the Rhine twice every day. I meet many people. Josephine was here today.

August 13—Early morning on my way to conference again. Clifford Mastre's have a room near the church. I rested in their room at noon.

August 14—Again at conference. Very warm. The Chrischona choir sang today—40 men and women, ~~no~~ women had bobbed hair. Their song books were in three languages. English, French, and German. As a whole not much singing was done at the conference. The speakers were mostly German.

August 15—At conference in the morning. After lunch we were taken to Zurich on 13 motor

busses. There we were welcomed by the ringing of the Grossmünster bells. It was a historic moment, said Samuel Gerber, president of the Swiss Mennonite Conference. Audience sang, "Holy God, we praise Thy Name." Then we walked to a spot along the Limmat River, where in 1527 Felix Manz was sentenced to death. The executioner bound him and threw him into the clear cold water. Conrad Grebel was another one of the first martyrs. We saw the house where he had preached. The Zurich Sea is small. Got back late to our lodging place.

Trip to Palestine

August 16—Today I shall leave my good boarding place. We met at the MCC centre, Josephine was also there. We trust that God will protect us on our trip to the Holy Land. We left Basel by train at 5:30 p.m. for Rome, Italy. Josephine leaves to see more of beautiful Switzerland and Europe.

August 17—Got to Rome this morning. The train ride was rough and it was very hot. Did not sleep much so went to rest this morning. Everyone is very helpful.

August 18—Ate lunch at 4 a.m. and then left for the airport. Had a prayer meeting in the hotel before we left. It is my desire that God will protect us. Now we have left Rome and are high in the air, on our way to Egypt. It is warm here. We can often see land. The sun still shines above us. Food is very good. First we landed in Athens, crossed the Mediterranean Sea and landed in Cairo. Our leader

is Ed Cabry. Much sand hardly any vegetation. Drove around in Cairo by bus. Spent night in hotel Arabia. Saw the pyramids. Huge stones are used to build them. Had a ride on camels. Had a boat ride on the Nile River. Very warm. The people are very restless and disturbed. There are several reasons for this unrest. One is the danger of uprisings within the country. In Egypt King Farouk had fled the country just a short time before we were there.

August 19—In Cairo we went to a museum. Old kings made of stone and many other things. Saw the place where Mary and Joseph fled to with the baby Jesus when King Herod wanted to kill all babies. A big ditch of water flows from the Nile inland. Many farmers were carrying crocks of water dipped from this ditch. Also 5 gallon cans of water were carried on their heads. Women sit at the ditches of water and do the washing. The water is used for irrigation. We saw some black cattle in the water. The land along the ditches is very fruitful. Many palm trees. We saw many people walking along the road. When you see these poor children you feel like saying, "God have mercy on these poor people."

August 20—This morning we went to Almaza Airport. We are on our way to Beirut. We are high up in the air. We can see the Suez Canal and ships sailing. We get chewing gum to chew and cotton to put into our ears. We get tea and cookies. After 2½ hours we are in Beirut. We are 10 preachers in this group. After dinner we went to Tyre and

Sidon and back to Beirut for the night.

August 21—All had breakfast. With 5 cars we went over Mt. Lebanon but didn't see any cedars. Solomon's men must have cut them all off. Further north are to be a few cedars but we didn't see them. Then we crossed the border into Syria Damascus.

Here in Damascus we saw a great deal. We saw the street called Straight also the house where Ananias came to Paul, where Paul again received his sight and became a child of God. We saw a long church where John the Baptist lies buried. Many people fall to their faces or kneel down. There were shoes at the door that we had to put over ours to go into the church. On the way we saw threshing, 2 oxen on one stick of wood which they dragged over the grain. We also saw four women throw grain into the air to clean it. We also saw the house where Paul was dropped out of a window in a basket. On the way to Jericho the land was level. Saw many stones also good fields of corn. At the boundary a new driver and bus came to take us into Jericho. Had supper at 12 midnight.

August 22—I did not feel too well so stayed at the hotel before dinner. The rest of our company went to see the Bedonians. These people are semi-nomads. They graze sheep, goats and camels for their food. The Bedouin never eats fish. His consumption of vegetables and fruits and eggs is low. After dinner we went to see the Dead Sea. This sea is 47

miles long and 8 to 12 miles wide. The water is so salty that no fish live in it. From this sea we can see Mt. Nebo. On the way to Jerusalem we can see the mountain where Jesus was transfigured. We saw the home of Mary and Martha, also Lazarus's grave. We also saw a spring that always has water in it. We stayed at a fine hotel in Jerusalem.

August 23—We went to stay in Jerusalem for Sunday. First services in the Garden of Gethsemane and then to Hebron. To Bethlehem where Jesus was born and Boaz's field where Ruth picked grain and Boaz married her later. We also saw the field where the angels proclaimed the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. We saw many sheep, goats, camels and donkeys on the fields. We saw Solomons Pool. Near Bethlehem is a new T.B. hospital built out of stone. For 5 years Dr. Lambie has been the president of this hospital. Had lunch under the trees where Abraham lived. Our lunch consisted of bread, grapes and water.

Genesis 18:1-3 And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, lo three men stood by him . . . And said My Lord.

August 24—"North of the city, outside the wall is Calvary on a skull shaped hill at the foot of this hill is a garden in which a tomb has been discovered that fits very well the description in the Gospels. A Protestant organization keeps this garden in condition and many Protestants ac-

cept this to be the authentic grave. At any rate the tomb in this garden is like that in which Jesus was buried. There is a refreshing simple city here for the Protestant believer in contrast to the Church of the Sepulchre.

In our service at the Tomb we sang 1. When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, 2. On a Hill near at Hand, 3. Low in the Grave He lay, 4. The Way of the Cross. Then we examined the tomb. It was a deeply moving experience. The grave looks just like the description in the Gospels. We can easily believe that it is the same one. Then we went to Solomon's temple area. The great stone altar of Mt. Moriah where Abraham was to offer Isaac which was later the altar of sacrifice in the temple. We saw excavations of the Pool of Bethesda. Then to the Mt. of Olives, the traditional spot of the Ascension. Toward Samaria the guide pointed to right and left. Here Solomon prayed for wisdom. Over there is the tomb of Joshua, over there is Shiloh, where the tabernacle stood. This road Joseph travelled with supplies for his brothers in Dothan.

August 25—Had dinner at Nablus. A Dutch girl came and had dinner with us at the hotel. She took us to the hospital where she works. This hospital is financed by American Mennonites. Close by is Bethel where old Father Jacob slept on the stone and saw the angels go up and down from heaven.

August 26—Crossed into New Jerusalem. Travelled to Mount Zion. Went into the room of the Last

Supper. Then to Mt. Beatitudes. Went to Sea of Galilee via the Judean Hills. Dinner and night at Mt. Beatitudes.

August 27—We are on the sea where Jesus helped to fish and made fishers of men. Went to the Jordan where it flows out of the Sea of Galilee. Very beautiful gardens of dates and oranges. The gardens are irrigated. I cooled my head in the clear cool water of the Sea of Galilee. Near here is a Jewish cattle farm.

August 28—Spent the night at Lydda Airport Hotel. We are on the way to Athens high up in the air. Had a good meal before we landed in Athens, Greece. We saw many islands but mostly sea under us. The people look prosperous, not so many poor. The land is very fruitful. The streets are right along the sea. The people swim on one side of the street and there are business places on the other. It is not surprising that the apostles often preached on the water and travelled on water.

August 29—We are flying to Rome. Got to Rome at 3 o'clock. Stayed in a hotel. Mr. Bender, our leader went to Basel on business.

August 30—We saw St. Peter's Church this morning. Michelangelo spent 11 years painting the pictures of the end of the world and the last judgment.

August 31—Left Rome at 8 o'clock by bus and train. Got to Lugano in beautiful Switzerland. The mountains have green grass, shrubbery and vineyards. Some have snow caps. We feel quite at home here. It is nice and cool.

Our hotel is on the side of a mountain. We sang, prayed and thanked God. Then went to bed.
September 1—We took a boat and sailed to Lucerne, it took us 2 hours. Spent the night in a hotel. Switzerland is very beautiful with its green mountains, cattle and gardens on the mountain side.

September 2—Took the train to Basel. Went to Henry Loewens at the MCC Centre.

September 3—Went to see the Zoological Garden in Basel. Saw many wild animals. Had dinner at Henry Loewens.

September 4—Mr. and Mrs. Jac. T. Loewen left us here at Henry Loewens and went into Switzerland to see more of the mountains.

September 5—Charlie Warner Long left us this morning. Now I am alone of our group.

September 6—Left Basel for Amsterdam. Most of the way was along the Rhine River. Saw many boats on the Rhine Got to Amsterdam where I stayed at the MCC centre. The land along the Rhine is very fruitful. In Offen-burg it rained. The depot at Mannheim is partly burned. In the city of Kuelen I saw many burned and bombed areas.

September 7—Sunday morning, I went to a Mennonite church in Amsterdam. In the afternoon there was an exhibition of old writings, books and pictures. I saw a letter that Menno Simon had written in 1550. Also the first book he had printed in 1685. Also a letter written by one of the martyrs in 1573.

September 8—I had a boatride on a canal in Amsterdam to the Zeider

Zee. It is interesting to see a water street with boats on it. We passed the Queen of Holland's palace, a very beautiful place. Many windmills are still in use in Holland.

September 9—We passed through Utrich to Zeist. Spent the night here. It is pleasant autumn weather. At the MCC centre many workers had gathered for a conference. Heard English again.

September 10—Spent the night at Zeist. Took the train to Brussels, Belgium: Went through Utrich, Amstetrdam, Rotterdam and Antwerp. Got to Paris at 6 pm. The Menno Travel Service looks after me very well.

September 11—Spent the night in Paris. At 7:30 I left for La Havre. Here we boarded the ship Scythia and we are homeward bound.

September 12—This morning we saw the fishing boats. The ocean is very calm. We are well and at the table for our meals. Warner Long, Emil Swalln, Jesse Martens and I are in Room 45B.

September 13—There is more wind today but not vrey much.

September 14—This is Sunday on board ship and we attended church. The sea is calm and the food is very good.

September 15—Today many are sick but our table was full so the steward put a bouquet of flowers on our table as a reward. Towards evening it was quite windy.

September 16—Warner Long and two other men were at the table. Had a good breakfast. I went to the engine room and saw the

machinery some of which was 40 feet under water. The crew and passengers all had to wear safety belts for drill.

September 17—A 72 year old man died last night. He ate supper with his wife and died soon after. The next day he was buried at sea.

September 18—We can see the land today. It is a lovely day and we can see many fishing boats. We are all well in our room.

September 19—Landed at Quebec at 10 a.m. We four men parted here. We may never see each

other again. At 8 p.m. we stopped at Montreal. The train goes through to Toronto.

September 20—Got to Toronto at 7 a.m. At 1 p.m. I took the train to Niagara Falls A wonderful things to see. At 11 p.m. I took the train for Winnipeg.

September 21—Drove all night and then I'll be home.

September 22—Got to Winnipeg at 9 a.m. My son Albert met me at the CNR depot.

Home sweet home.

G. F. Giesbrecht, Steinbach

WILHELM T. GIESBRECHT

1849 - 1917

Father Wilhelm Giesbrecht was born July 16, 1849 in the village of Prangenau, South Russia. His father was Gerhard Giesbrecht, born May 25, 1816 and died February 16, 1863. Grandfather's father was Jacob Giesbrecht. Father's mother was Agenetha Thiessen born July 8, 1815. Her father was Jacob Thiessen.

Our father did not have much schooling. His father was a sickly man so the church let him have a small business to make a living. He died when our father was 13 years old so the mother, two sons and three daughters were left in very poor circumstances.

When still quite young Father had to work for farmers and sometimes had to sleep in barns. Later he worked for Frank Kroecker who was a shoemaker. Here he learned to make and repair shoes. This helped him to make a living later. His wages were 20

rubels a year. Here in America he made shoes for the family.

Our father had not been taught about having personal experiences with God and that Jesus had died for all sin. He often prayed and was concerned about his soul. He confessed his sins and God heard him and when he accepted Christ as his Saviour he was a happy man, all fear was gone. Jeremiah 31:3. The Lord appeared of old unto me saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee. Father had not been taught of such religious experiences.

At the age of 20 he was baptized in the Kleine Gemeinde. At the age of 24 he married Elizabeth Harms in 1873. April 4th a son was born to them but May 10 the young mother died after being sick for 12 days. She was buried May 13. Her age was 18 2/4.

19 years, 7 months and 10 days.

Preparation had been made to immigrate to North America on June 1 of that same year. Father with the 2 month old baby also went as had been planned before the mother died. He told us later it would have been better if he had waited a little longer to make this move. The long journey had been very hard and sad time for him.

Before they landed here at Niverville the baby died and was buried as they reached their destination.

Father took a homestead near Kleefeld, Manitoba. Section 21, T. 6, R.5E.

January 10, 1875 father married Katherine Friesen. They lived on the homestead for 4 years. Three children were born during that time but 1 died in infancy.

In 1878 our parents moved to Steinbach. Father bought a 160 acre farm near the village of Steinbach. There were reasons for this move. Mother's family lived in Steinbach also Father's mother, brothers and sisters lived here. It was easier to send the children to school and community life was better. Father started farming here with new courage.

June 2, 1875 Father Friesen drowned in the Red River near Winnipeg. It took so long to find the body that when it was found it was buried in Winnipeg. Many hardships had to be endured during this time.

John Holdeman came to Steinbach in the year 1880 to preach the gospel to the people. Father thought, too, that more repentance should be preached and only those

that were born again should be baptized. Menno Simon's teaching should be taught. So our parents joined John Holdeman's church. He was now a busy man in the Kingdom of God. He visited the sick and helped seeking souls to find Christ. He also preached for the Lutheran people at funerals and special occasions.

Our parents were poor but we always had enough food and clothing. 14 children were born to them but 4 died in infancy. They taught us to lead a God fearing life by word and also by a good example. In the morning Father read God's Word and then we all knelt down and Father led in prayer. Father was small in stature and had a full beard.

The following we took out of Father's diary: In 1888 he was away for 40 days, in Ontario, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana to preach the Word of God. 1896 he was in Kansas and Nebraska for 45 days. In 1899 he was in South Dakota and Nebraska to preach for 32 days. In 1901 he was in North Dakota for 31 days. 1901 to 1905 he was 69 days from home. 1905 to 1908 he was away for 79 days preaching the Word. In 1908 he was in North Dakota for 8 days. In 1909 he was in North Dakota for 6 days to help with church work. November 14, 1909 he went to a church conference in Kansas where he was the chairman. He was gone for 28 days. In 1910 he was in North Dakota again for 6 days. In 1916 our parents went to Kansas for a short visit where our Mother had a sister.

Our parents were both not very strong physically. Mother was of

ten alone with the children. She died at the age of 83 years. October 22, 1938. She lived 21 years after Father's death.

Father was the editor of the *Botschaft der Wahrheit* for 5 years.

Father had cancer of the stomach. He was sickly for a long time and the last week he was in bed. He left this world with peace in his heart to meet his Saviour at the age of 68 years on July 8, 1917.

The following are a few verses of a song he composed —No. 206 in the small song book.

NO. 266 out of the small church
Song Book
*How great is thy compassion
Thou gracious Father mine
In spite of my transgression
I can be wholly Thine
Thou has forgiven all my sins
I praise Thee for Thy mercy
And for thy love divine.*

*My life thou hast appointed
Before that I was born
My soul hast thou anointed
In Christ to be thine own
Yea thru thy love oh gracious Lord
And through Christ's death and suff'ring
My life is now restored.*

*So early Thou hast called me
To choose the narrow way,—
My heart could not resist thee,
To come with thee to stay.
For with Thy strong and loving plea
Hast Thou my self persuaded
How great Thy love to me.*

*Thy goodness and Thy mercy
Awakened me from death,
It drew me closer to Thee—
I feared Thy holy wrath,
And cried to Thee in my despair,
Thou camest to my refuge—
Now keep me, is my prayer.*
Composed in the German by
Rev. Wilhelm Giesbrecht

LIFE HISTORY OF FATHER C. B. LOEWEN

Father was 11 years old when he came to Canada from Russia with his parents in 1874. He was the oldest in the family and experienced much poverty and hardships of the first years in a new country.

In 1882 he married our mother Anna Toews. The first years of their married life they lived in a room 12' by 12' at our Grandmothers. My brother Cornelius, I, and my sister Anna were born here. This house stood close to where C. T. Loewens Lumber Yard now stands close to main street.

In April, 1886 they moved to Lichtnau 2 miles from Steinbach where father went to work. Isaac

was born here. After 2½ years they moved to Steinbach where Kreutzer's Blacksmith shop now stands.

Grandfather Loewen and uncle Isaac Loewen lived with us for quite a few years. Grandfather stayed with us till he died.

There were hard years for our mother. The children were small, Grandfather sick, and father away working. In the winter he always went to the bush to work. Cornelius had to split wood, take care of the cow and do other chores after school.

Later our parents had a small farm. Father was in the bush in the winter and in summer he

built and moved houses. A small brother Peter died after we had been in Steinbach for a year.

We lived in Stenbach for ten years and then in 1899 Father bought a farm 1½ miles south of Steinbach. Here we farmed but Father worked in the bush, moved houses, planed lumber and went out threshing.

This first year on the farm we had a very small crop. Isaac, Peter, Abe and I had to look after the crop. Cornelius was older and had to help with the threshing. Mother was always ill. Peter, Isaac and Abe had to look after the cows and pigs. They had to go to Steinbach to get the grain chopped and also bought feed for the pigs.

In 1902 Father and Cornelius didn't get home from threshing until November. It was very cold when they brought the machine home. November 10th we got ready to butcher pigs to sell. Mother was quite sick that evening. Cornelius had to go for the doctor with horse and buggy for seven miles in a cold, dark evening. It was late when he brought Uncle Isaac Warkentin home. He was our doctor at that time. Mr. Warkentin spent the night there but Mother died the next morning. November 11, 1902

Mother had coughed a great deal the last few days. She had pneumonia and dropsey. Her death was heart breaking for all of us but we believe she was ready to meet God. Our parents were converted and led a God fearing life.

But our life had to go on. The next week we butchered pigs. Af-

ter Christmas Father went to the bush to cut lumber.

Father got married again June 21, 1903 to Mrs. Maria Reimer from Blumenort. A great change for our family took place. Father gave up working away from home. He stayed home and tried to make a living on the farm. Our parents would sometimes go visiting during the week. That was very strange to us. Soon Father built a new house and a big barn.

In 1912 Father sold this farm and bought a better farm north of Steinbach. For a while things worked out very well. Then Father bought a car, a tractor and 640 acres of land at Isle de Chenes, Manitoba. Then everything got cheaper, debts had to be paid, so Father sold his farm to pay debts.

Then our parents moved to Steinbach and rented a house there. Soon they moved to Morris and opened a store there. This was not successful so they moved back to Steinbach.

One winter they moved with their family to Pulp Camp to cook. This camp was operated by brother Cornelius.

In 1928 our parents went to Meade, Kansas to help with the wheat harvest. This proved to be too hard for Father. It was very hot and Father got very sick. After a five days illness he died on July 26, 1928. Father came home in a coffin which was very hard for Mother and the children. Father lived to the age of 64 years, 9 months and 3 days. He was born October 22, 1863.

Written by his daughter,
Elizabeth, Mrs. G. F. Giesbrecht

TAKEN FROM DIARY OF CORNELIUS LOEWEN, 1827-1893

1874—The following is a description of the journey from Russia to America.

June 1, Russian time, namely Saturday, we left our old home and came to Nikopol. We brought our baggage into the ship, stayed overnight, and arrived by ship at Cherson. We stayed overnight and journeyed on Monday to Odessa. Late on Tuesday we took the train at Odessa and arrived at Schmerinka on Wednesday evening. Here we changed to another train and arrived on Thursday forenoon in Wolochisk where our passports were examined. We took tickets to Pod Wolotschisk (across the border) where our baggage was checked for weight. Toward evening we resumed our journey and arrived at Swishin the next day on Friday. We were assigned quarters and had a good rest during that night. On Saturday after breakfast we bought tickets and left for Breslau, where we left that evening for Berlin. Here we arrived at noon on Sunday, and waited in the station until late that evening, and then left for Hamburg, where we arrived on Monday morning. We were given lodging and food. For breakfast we got zwieback, sugar and coffee; for lunch, potatoes, soup, grits and fresh meat. Here we stayed until Friday and left that evening by ship across the North Sea to Hull, where we arrived on Sunday June 16, at 2 p.m. We had to remain on board ship until the next day. On Monday at noon we took the train and travelled to Liverpool, where we arrived at 6

p.m. We were given lodging, and after supper we enjoyed a good night's rest. Now we had come to the great Atlantic Ocean. On Tuesday, the 18, before noon we went on board the large ship, and sailed out of the harbor after Vesper (about 4 p.m.)

During the first 4 days we had a great deal of wind. On the 5th, we were delayed somewhat at Ireland. On June 27, 1874, at 8 in the morning we arrived at Newfoundland, and stopped over at St. Johns for three hours. Here some people left the ship and some cargo was unloaded. Here we also walked on land again. We saw many icebergs and whales near Newfoundland. On Sunday, June 30, at 8 in the morning, we arrived at Halifax which is a city on an island. Here again some passengers disembarked, and much cargo was unloaded. This was not all of the ocean we had to cross. On Monday July 1, at 6 p.m. we left Halifax again, and on July 5, (July 17, American time) at sunrise, we arrived at Quebec. Here we remained in the station until sundown. We boarded the train and left immediately for Montreal, where we arrived on Saturday just before breakfast. After we again travelled by train and came to Toronto on Sunday at 9 a.m. Here some Canadian Mennonite Brethren welcomed us, and presented us with meat, butter and dried apples. They also arranged with the authorities that we did not have to go on over the difficult Dawson trail. We stayed in Toronto until 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Then we left by train and came to the shores of Lake Superior at 9 p.m. and were immedi-

ately ordered to board ship. We left at half-past eleven that night, and it took four days and four nights to cross the lake.

We arrived at Duluth on Saturday, July 25, 10 p.m. We observed Sunday as a day of rest. On Monday 2 p.m. we left by train, and arrived at Moorhead, Minnesota, at sunrise on Tuesday. We now come to the banks of the Red River, where we embarked at 2 p.m. for Winnipeg, Manitoba. On Friday evening July 31 we landed at our destination, but remained on the boat that night. Saaturday August 1, we spent in Winnipeg and went to the other side of the river.

We went back in our boat to

the mouth of the Rat River, just opposite the land that we were to occupy later. We landed here at dawn on August 2, 1874; this happened to be on a Sunday. Further transportation by the government now ceased, and we disembarked on the banks of the river, with no buildings in sight. Two transportation rigs had been brought from Winnipeg, and several halfbreeds were engaged, who helped the children and their mothers to arrive at the immigration buildings, that were erected several miles southward from the present town of Niverville. The newcomers dwelt about 19 days in these buildings.

G. F. Giesbrecht

May, 1922 we bought our first car, a Chevrolet 490.

September 1925 we took our first trip to Kansas in our second car a Ford Model T. We had our baby Lottie with us and also Katherine Reimer and B. D. Penner.

September, 1929 we went on a trip west. We had Mary, Edwin, Minna and Ernest with us. We went to Linden, Alberta and also to Crooked Creek, Alberta where our son George lived on his homestead.

January 1937 we took a trip to California with Mr. and Mrs. Jac. E. Regehr. On our way home we stopped at Colorado to visit our son, Jac.

July 1937 I took Elizabeth and Lottie along to Crooked Creek, Alberta.

From there we went to Banff and also to visit our son George and family at Linden Alberta.

September 1939 we with our children Ben D. Penners went to a conference of the Church of God in Christ, Mennonite in Kansas.

July 1952 I made that trip to Europe and the Holy Land in company with Mr. and Mrs. Jac. D. Loewen.

August 1957 I and Wesley Penner, my grandson, went to Osnaburgh Ontario where Josephine worked as a Public Health Nurse on an Indian Reserve. We went by train to Savant Lake and then by bus 100 miles north to Dog Hole. From there we travel six miles by boat to Osnaburgh. Here the Hudson Bay had a post since 1797.

BORN

MARRIED

DIED

1. GERHARD F. GIESBRECHT

Feb. 13, 1878..Feb. 11, 1903.....

ELIZABETH LOEWEN Oct. 4, 1884..... Oct. 22, 1948

2 George..... Dec. 12, 1903.....

2 Anna' Sept. 10, 1905.....

2 Katherine Feb. 24, 1907.....

2 Jacob May 26, 1908.....

2 Albert July 21, 1910.....

2 Elizabeth Feb. 1, 1912.....

2 Mary July 6, 1914.....

2 Edwin Dec. 19, 1915.....

2 Adina Dec. 14, 1917..... Dec. 15, 1917

2 Minna Dec. 25, 1918.....

2 Charlotte..... Ott. 19, 1920.....

2 Waldon Mar. 25, 1923..... Mar. 29, 1923

2 Josephine Sept. 26, 1925.....

2 Ernest..... May 16, 1927.....

2 GEORGE GIESBRECHT..Dec. 12, 1903...Dec. 17, 1930.....

MINNIE TOEWS Aug. 23, 1909..... Nov. 4, 1958

3 Elizabeth Laura....Dec. 18, 1931.....

3 Alfred Ernest..... Aug. 7, 1933.....

3 Doreen Mary..... May 25, 1935.....

3 Eileen Winnifred ..Feb. 13, 1937.....

3 Clarence Glen Apr. 23, 1939.....

3 Rodney Melvin.....June 24, 1941.....

3 Wayne Ronald July 20, 1942.....

3 Margaret Phyllis... Oct. 7, 1945.....

3 Helen Geraldine.... Aug. 8, 1949..... July 18, 1959

3 ELIZABETH LAURA... Dec. 18, 1931... May 8, 1956.....

HAROLD WIEBE Apr. 25, 1929.....

4 Kenneth Ross..... June 20, 1959.....

4 Patrick Donald.... June 12, 1962.....

4 Robert James.....July 3, 1963.....

4 Audrey Diane July 21, 1965.....

BORN

MARRIED

DIED

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| 3 | ALFRED ERNEST..... | Aug. 7, 1933.. | June 27, 1959 | |
| | ELSIE ABFWATER | May 2, 1937..... | | |
| 4 | Maria Ruth..... | Jan. 27, 1963..... | | |
| 4 | Paul David..... | July 11, 1964..... | | |
| 3 | DOREEN MARY | May 25, 1935.. | Sept 22, 1955..... | |
| | AARON GOOSSEN | Nov. 7, 1929..... | | |
| 4 | Charles Darcy..... | July 6, 1957..... | | |
| 4 | Joan Margaret..... | Mar. 2, 1959..... | | |
| 4 | Wendell George... | Sept. 22, 1960..... | | |
| 4 | Lynn Melanie..... | June 12, 1962..... | | |
| 3 | EILEEN WINNIFRED.. | Feb. 13, 1937.. | Nov. 10, 1962..... | |
| | LEO LETKEMAN..... | Nov. 7, 1937..... | | |
| 4 | Tracy Dean..... | Aug. 13, 1963..... | | |
| 4 | Galen Ross..... | Feb. 24, 1965..... | | |
| 4 | Cathleen Fay | Feb. 24, 1965..... | | |
| 3 | CLARENCE GLEN..... | Apr. 23, 1939... | Nov. 3, 1961..... | |
| | JEAN ISAAC..... | Apr. 14, 1939..... | | |
| 4 | Dale Steven | July 10, 1965..... | | |
| 3 | RODNEY MELVIN..... | June 24, 1941.. | July 26, 1964..... | |
| | MARLENE GIESBRECHT | June 24, 1941..... | | |
| 4 | Baby..... | Apr. 13, 1965..... | Apr. 13, 1965 | |
| 4 | Joetta Marlene ... | Apr. 12, 1966..... | | |
| 3 | MARGARET PHYLLIS .. | Oct. 7, 1945.. | Aug. 21, 1965..... | |
| | LESLIE WILSON..... | | | |
| 2 | GEORGE GIESBRECHT | | | |
| | (Second marriage..... | May 21, 1961..... | | |
| | SARAH REIMER | Oct. 5, 1912..... | | |

BORN

MARRIED

DIED

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 2 ANNA GIESBRECHT.. | Sept. 10, 1905.. | Dec. 20, 1925..... | |
| BEN D . PENNER .. | Sept. 26, 1903..... | | |
| 3 Irene Mabel | Dec. 9, 1926..... | | |
| 3 Dorothy Margaret .. | Dec. 17, 1930..... | | |
| 3 Wesley Bernard ... | Apr. 16, 1933..... | May 2, 1965 | |
| 3 Dennis Earl..... | Feb. 20, 1936..... | | |
| 3 Carol Anne | July 19, 1942..... | | |
| 3 Eric (adopted)..... | May 28, 1956..... | | |
| 3 IRENE MABEL..... | Dec. 9, 1926.. | Sept. 23, 1950..... | |
| FRANK BARKMAN..... | Nov. 15, 1923..... | | |
| 4 Laurie Helen | Nov. 18, 1952..... | | |
| 4 Lucille Anne | Apr. 8, 1955..... | | |
| 4 Cheryl Joy | Aug. 23, 1958..... | | |
| 4 Elaine Ruth | Oct. 20, 1964..... | | |
| 3 DOROTHY MARGARET . | Dec, 17, 1930.. | Apr. 20, 1965..... | |
| CHARLIE JONES | Feb. 1939..... | | |
| 3 WESLEY BERNARD ... | Apr. 16, 1933.. | Aug. 17, 1963... May 2, 1965 | |
| JOYCE REDEKOPP ... | Feb. 13, 1941..... | | |
| 4 David Wesley | May 14, 1964..... | | |
| 2 KATHERINE GIESBRECHT | | | |
| | Feb. 24, 1907... | June 20, 1926..... | |
| FRANK TOEWS..... | June 22, 1903..... | | |
| 3 Irma Janet | Nov. 8, 1927..... | | |
| 3 Alice Mary | Jan. 16, 1929..... | | |
| 3 Kenneth George.... | Nov. 12, 1931..... | | |
| 3 Virginia Jean | Apr. 24, 1934..... | | |
| 3 Melvin Louis..... | Feb. 29, 1936..... | | |
| 3 Louise Jane..... | Oct. 3, 1938..... | | |
| 3 Franklin Junior .. | June 11, 1943..... | | |
| 3 Howard Allan | July 3, 1948..... | | |

| | BORN | MARRIED | DIED |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 3 | IRMA JANET | Nov. 8, 1927.. | Oct. 21, 1950..... |
| | GLADWIN BARKMAN .. | Mar. 11, 1925..... | |
| 4 | Ruth | Nov. 7, 1952..... | |
| 4 | Joan | Dec. 12, 1955..... | |
| 4 | Lois | July 21, 1957..... | |
| 4 | Lavaune Elizabeth . | Dec. 2, 1960..... | |
| 3 | ALICE MARY | Jan. 16, 1929.. | Oct. 21, 1950..... |
| | EDWARD WOHLGEMUTH.. | Mar. 28, 1928..... | |
| 4 | Carolyn Mae..... | Nov. 15, 1952..... | |
| 4 | Bruce Edward | Mar. 21, 1954..... | |
| 4 | Rhonda Katherine... | Jan. 28, 1958..... | |
| 4 | Rodney Eugene | May 5, 1960..... | |
| 3 | VIRGINIA JEAN | Apr. 24, 1934.. | Sept. 25, 1954..... |
| | ALBERT FAST | Feb. 18, 1929..... | |
| 4 | Debrah | Dec. 9, 1957..... | |
| 4 | Beverly..... | Feb. 21, 1959..... | |
| 4 | Robin Albert | May 31, 1965..... | |
| 3 | MELVIN LOUIS | Feb. 29, 1936.. | Sept. 7, 1957..... |
| | BERNICE REIMER | May 4, 1939..... | |
| 4 | Kevin Murray | Feb. 29, 1960 | Mar. 4, 1960 |
| 4 | Timothy Melvin ... | July 11, 1964 | |
| 4 | Travis Jon | Nov. 15, 1964..... | |
| 3 | LOUISE JANE | Oct. 3, 1938.... | May 7, 1960..... |
| | ALBERT BARTEL..... | | |
| 4 | Patrick Allan..... | Aug. 9, 1961..... | |
| 4 | Katherine Louise... | Apr. 6, 1965..... | |
| 2 | JACOB GIESBRECHT .. | May 26, 1908...Oct. 27, 1938..... | |
| | ADELINE SCHMIDT .. | Aug. 12, 1910..... | |

BORN

MARRIED

DIED

| | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 3 | Ariona Jacobi | ..... | June 5, 1940..... | |
| 3 | Sharon Joy | ..... | Nov. 25, 1943..... | |
| 3 | ARIONA JACOBA | ..... | June 5, 1940.. | Sept. 4, 1965..... |
| | BENNY MILLER | ..... |  |  |
| 3 | SHARON JOY | ..... | Nov. 25, 1943.... | July 6, 1963..... |
| | LARRY CARNEY | ..... |  |  |
| 2 | ALBERT GIESBRECHT | .. | July 21, 1910.. | Nov. 16, 1939..... |
| | NINA MASON | ..... | Apr. 10, 1918..... | |
| 3 | Fay Elaine | ..... | Jan. 11, 1948..... | |
| 3 | Dianne Ethel | ..... | Nov..27, 1953..... | |
| 2 | ELIZABETH GIESBRECHT | | | |
| | | | Feb. 1, 1912... | June 29, 1957 |
| | THOMAS M. WIBBE | ..... | Aug. 8, 1904..... | |
| 3 | Leona | ..... | Mar. 9, 1930..... | |
| 3 | Robert | ..... | Apr. 16, 1930..... | |
| 3 | Kathleen | ..... | Sept. 7, 1935..... | |
| 3 | LEONA | ..... | Mar. 9, 1932.... | July 7, 1954 |
| | GILBERT TOEWS | .... | Nov. 18, 1929..... | |
| 4 | Robert Donald | .... | Apr. 11, 1955..... | |
| 4 | Margaret Deanne | .. | Mar. 18, 1957..... | |
| 4 | Ralph Gilbert | .... | Sept. 4, 1960..... | |
| 3 | ROBERT | ..... | Apr. 16, 1930.... | July 26, 1957..... |
| | LEANNA GIESBRECHT | .. | Aug. 10, 1933..... | |
| 4 | Thomas Mark | ..... | Aug. 16, 1960..... | |
| 4 | Beverly Jean | ..... | July 30, 1963..... | |

| | BORN | MARRIED | DIED |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 3 KATHLEEN | Sept. 7, 1935 | Dec. 2, 1955 | |
| LOUIS BARKMAN..... | Aug. 21, 1932 | | |
| 4 Karen Faye | May 7, 1957 | | |
| 4 Lorna Joan | Apr. 25, 1959 | | |
| 4 Douglas Wayne..... | Dec. 16, 1962 | | |
| 4 Elizabeth Joyce ... | Jan. 28, 1966 | | |
| 2 MARY GIESBRECHT ... | July 6, 1914 | May 31, 1942 | |
| WILLIAM MOONEY ... | June 20, 1913 | | |
| 3 Mary Jean | Oct. 14, 1944 | | |
| 3 Katherine Martha .. | Feb. 8, 1948 | | |
| 3 Phyllis Anne | Sept. 9, 1949 | | |
| 3 MARY JEAN | Oct. 14, 1944 | Oct. 24, 1964 | |
| JAC. TOEWS | Sept. 9, 1944 | | |
| 2 EDWIN GIESBRECHT . | Dec. 19, 1915 | June 22, 1945 | |
| ELIZABETH WIELER . | Apr. 29, 1922 | | |
| 3 Baby boy | Jan. 4, 1948 | | Jan. 4, 1948 |
| 3 Brenda Elizabeth . | Jan. 20, 1950 | | |
| 3 Valerie Jean..... | Nov. 29, 1952 | | |
| 2 MINNA GIESBRECHT . | Dec. 25, 1918 | May 4, 1940 | |
| ALBERT GOOSSEN | June 29, 1918 | | |
| 3 Mary Jane..... | July 31, 1941 | | |
| 3 Christine Wanda ... | Jan. 5, 1943 | | |
| 3 Elizabeth Joan ... | Mar. 20, 1944 | | |
| 3 Robert George | Mar. 4, 1947 | | |
| 3 MARY JANE | July 31, 1941 | Aug. 17, 1963 | |
| CALVIN RAMSEY | June 14, 1940 | | |
| 3 CHRISTINE | Jan. 5, 1943 | Aug. 13, 1960 | |
| WILLIAM DEARBORN .. | June 27, 1937 | | |

BORN

MARRIED

DIED

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| 4 Michelle | Jan. | 1962..... | |
| 4 Shirlee | Aug. 13, | 1963..... | |
| 3 ELIZABETH | Mar. 20, | 1944.. | Aug. 14, 1965..... |
| BARRY SOLNES | April 26, | 1943..... | |
| 2 CHARLOTTE GIESBRECHT | | | |
| | Oct. 19, | 1920.... | July 9, 1944..... |
| ISAAC MOONEY | May 8, | 1915..... | |
| 3 Thomas Ross | Oct. 19, | 1945..... | |
| 3 Doris Elizabeth ... | Feb. 9, | 1948..... | |
| 3 Marjorie | Mar. 27, | 1955..... | |
| 2 ERNEST GIESBRECHT . | May 16, | 1927.. | June 10, 1955..... |
| HILDA REMPLE | June 18, | 1932..... | |
| 3 Joanne Marie | May 21, | 1966 | |
| Adopted | June 13, | 1966 | |

George - Poultry Farmer, B.C.

Annie - Housewife, Man.

Kathrine - Housewife, Man.

Jacob - Trainman, Kansas

Albert - Oil Dealer, Man.

Elizabeth - Retired Teacher, Man.

Mary - Nurse and Housewife, Man. ife, Man.

Edwin - Farmer and Carpenter, Man.

Minnie - Stenographer and Housewife, Man.

Lottie - Teacher and Housewife, Man.

Josephine - Nurse and Matron, Bethesda Hospital, Man.

Ernest - Farmer, Man.

William T. (1849-1917) and Katherine (Friesen)
Giesbrecht (1855-1938)

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| William Giesbrecht | 1875-1965 |
| Gerhard Giesbrecht | 1878- 1 |
| Katherine Giesbrecht | 1880- 1971 |
| Jacob Giesbrecht | 1882-1948 |
| Diedrich Giesbrecht | 1883- 1966 |
| John Giesbrecht | 1886-1965 |
| Peter Giesbrecht | 1888-1918 |
| Isaac Giesbrecht | 1890- 1966 |
| David Giesbrecht | 1895- |
| Cornelius Giesbrecht | 1899- |

Cornelius B. (1863-1928) and Anna (Toews)
Loewen (1863-1902)

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Cornelius Loewen | 1883-1962 |
| Elizabeth Giesbrecht | 1884-1948 |
| Isaac Loewen | 1888-1950 |
| Anna Giesbrecht | 1886-1934 |
| Peter Loewen | 1891-1953 |
| Abram Loewen | 1893- 1970 |
| Jacob Loewen | 1895-1961 |
| Katherine Reimer | 1899- |

Second marriage to Mrs. Maria Reimer

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Maria Reimer | 1897- |
| John Loewen | 1905- |
| Helen Loewen | 1909- |
| Margaret Loewen | 1910- |
| Henry Loewen | 1914- |
| Ben Loewen | 1915- |

